



After Today a Woman's Store as Well as a Man's.

A business event of importance will take place Monday, as we announce formal occupancy of our new annex and design to signalize it by such an exhibition of

Women's Costumes, Jackets, Capes, Silk Waists,
Dress Skirts, Silk Petticoats, etc.,

as will constitute one of the most notable events in the history of mercantile effort in Washington. We open wide our doors for a gala week, so that viewing and choosing from the richness garnered in foreign and American centers for this occasion will

be both satisfying and comfortable. That the showing will meet the expectations of the army of visitors and emphasize the fact that this store shall also be to the fore, where women's wearables are concerned, is a conclusion eminently safe to make under the impressive conditions which will develop as this

Extraordinary Display of Women's New Spring Apparel

progresses. Bright with the beauty of fashionable attire is the second floor parlor of the new addition, devoted entirely to the display of Women's Ready-to-wear. From gay Paris comes many fashion delights of which this scene of enchantment for all womankind is made up.

Gowns and Wraps of the richest fabrics reflect the highest ideals of 1899 fashion. Dresses suitable for every grade of social function, for calling, for dinners, for the carriage or the promenade, even Morning and House Gowns, are here to suit every purse and every taste. Capes of great richness, Coats of every new shape and fabric, separate Skirts, Silk Waists of every description, together with a complete line of Silk Petticoats combine in such a lavish display as Washington has to enjoy for the first time. And we may add never before were presented such opportunity to make economical or luxurious choice. Never better opportunity to pick from the crystallized cream of the famous fashion centers. Never better opportunity to test by actual comparison the supremacy of this store in these lines as well as in those of Men's Wearables. There's such a satisfaction in this new venture that we are sure the women of our city will find the highest enjoyment in contemplation of the artistic creations which will be spread before them. We extend a cordial invitation to every lady of this city and vicinity to visit Washington's Newest Woman's Store.

Opening Days Monday and Tuesday, March 13 and 14.

PARKER, BRIDGET & CO.

Head-to-Foot Outfitters.

Pennsylvania Avenue and 9th Street.

PROGRESS IN PORTO RICO

How General Henry Controls in San Juan.

A Disappointed Premier - Growing Patriotism Among the People.

Special Correspondence of The Evening Star.

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico, February 23, 1899.

If Porto Rican affairs here are to be understood in the states and directed for the best results here, the facts must be understood by American citizens and statesmen. Otherwise, the policy of expansion will be costly and a failure. Recent events here have been especially instructive. General Henry for a considerable period had been letting civil administrations, both insular and municipal, have the freest self-direction. Soldiers camped near towns and had nothing to do with their civil affairs any more than under similar circumstances in the states, but complaints of abuses increased. At last in one of the municipalities frauds and other wrongs became intolerable and General Henry established martial law and put out the civil officers. This warning had a most wholesome effect on other alcaldes and councils. Lack of co-operation and disturbances appeared here and there pointing to the cabinet as their source, of which Mr. Rivera was the president and therefore secretary of state.

Gen. Henry's Course.

General Henry long and faithfully tried to let this cabinet and the municipalities do as they pleased with the most disappointing results. When he corrected municipal evils the cabinet protested. Matters were so bad in the department of the interior that the general called for the resignation of that secretary and continued the next in rank as acting secretary, and placed the two important divisions of the work in the hands of two Americans as bureau officers and broke up the cabinet meetings

save when he was present to preside, and directed each secretary to do the work of his own department, thus introducing American methods and insuring this. In a written communication the cabinet admitted that the general was right in going so far with American methods, but demanded that he should give them an election by the people. In the present condition of bitterness this would be attended with violence and there was no authority for it from Washington. After the secretaries, requiring each to administer his own department, and directing that there would be no cabinet meetings save when he presided. There was not only general acquiescence, but much hearty approval by the public. This was too much for the disaffected in effect bidding defiance to the general tendency to become American. He would separate from America as he sought to separate from Spain, and, acting the part of injured innocence, would have the people believe that they are as much oppressed now as when under Spanish tyranny.

The latest sign of his disturbing spirit is his having his friends write him letters of sympathy and congratulation. His friends give out that he is going to the states to learn the methods there and return to gain control of affairs here, and he will take \$50,000 with him.

Celebrating the Treaty Ratification. There has been formed here within a few weeks an organization entitled a society for the benefit of children, in which all party differences are to be ignored. One of its executive committee received a cable message giving information of the ratification of the treaty. The committee at 11 a.m. considered the question of an expression of the popular feeling, and invited everybody to join, and from 4 to 5 o'clock Gen. Henry's headquarters to express their congratulations to him, and the general made them a very happy speech.

ing every flag to the breeze. At 1 p.m. the school began to appear on the streets, each school marching behind the flag furnished by the Lafayette Post, to the theater, the largest assembly room in the city. Each school was seated with its flag. The theater was packed in every part. It is said that more than 600 people were standing, and many more went away. The Orphan Boys' Band and the Porto Rican Band furnished the music. The United States flags were abundant. A good portrait of Washington was placed in full view on the stage. The soldiers and sailors from the Panther presented and repeated two tableaux, the battle of San Juan and the statue of Liberty enlightening the world. The minister of the interior introduced the superintendent of education, who, in a few words, pointed to the character of Washington as a boy, man and statesman. He closed with "God bless the fathers and mothers, and God bless the boys and girls of Porto Rico." The bands played the Porto Rican national airs.

Examinations at the Barracks. A board of officers has been appointed to meet at Washington barracks, D. C., for the examination of the following named officers for promotion: First Lieutenants Frederick S. Strong, 4th Artillery; John L. Chamberlain, 1st Artillery; Ira A. Haynes, 4th Artillery; and Isaac N. Lewis, 6th Artillery; and Second Lieutenants Henry H. Whitney, 4th Artillery; Joseph Wheeler, Jr., 4th Artillery; Clarence H. McNeil, 6th Artillery; Joseph P. Tracy, 6th Artillery; L. S. Miller, 4th Artillery; and H. LaF. Applewhite, 6th Artillery. Major J. M. Lancaster, 4th Artillery, will be president and Lieutenant George C. Gately, 5th Artillery, will be recorder of the board.

Bill - "Why do you call your friend a popular song writer?"
Jill - "Because he never sings his own songs." - Yonkers Statesman.

BOOKS FOR OUR SOLDIERS

Efforts to Supply Them With Reading Matter Well Rewarded.

Not All the Contributions Are Suitable - Some of the Queer Donations.

A young woman who has been sending literature to our soldiers in Cuba and Porto Rico has had some funny experiences with charitably disposed people. While the bulk of matter contributed is appropriate and in fine condition, the kindly character of the donors, many of the gifts are useless for the purpose intended and place the givers in a highly ludicrous light. A call for reading matter seems to open up a splendid opportunity for some people to clean attics of no end of queer things, and at the same time allow them to figuratively hug themselves over the thought that they have been truly patriotic and have done their share in ministering to the wearers of the blue.

Not long since a woman sent a box of old-fashioned papers and leaflets which might once have been clean and whole, but were so permeated with soot and dust as to be entirely unfit for handling. A call for reading matter seems to open up a splendid opportunity for some people to clean attics of no end of queer things, and at the same time allow them to figuratively hug themselves over the thought that they have been truly patriotic and have done their share in ministering to the wearers of the blue.

Some people, believing that the soldiers are either all good or all bad, send nothing but religious literature, while still others take the trouble to mark strong, admonitory passages, such as "Repent," "Flee

from the wrath to come," and others of like character. These people, no doubt, have good intentions, but they are not accustomed to implicitly obeying commands objects to being interfered with in his moral or religious life.

Some kindly disposed souls write recipes for such ailments as colds, scurvy, dysentery and other diseases common to soldiers. A few give explicit instructions that their contributions shall be sent to designated places, because they know somebody's boy who belongs to a regiment stationed at that point.

Just Like Other Men. Notwithstanding his plain uniform, if he be a private, or his shoulder straps and insignia of rank, if he be an officer, a soldier's tastes and inclinations are very much the same as those of a private citizen. If he before he enters the army, the chances are that he will find little delight in perusing the startling tales of adventure as they are in the supplement of a yellow journal. On the other hand, if the man is uniformed in sensational matter, regardless of his lack of literary merit, he would not enjoy even the pictures of a high-class periodical, nor would he take the trouble to read a single article in a truly fine magazine. But these are extreme types, and there are many plain, sensible men in the army who find a pleasant pastime in reading the lighter as well as the more weighty class of literature. So, to suit all tastes, a variety of matter is placed in each box.

Even the five-cent monthlies are acceptable, and serve their purpose by relieving the tedious hours of garrison duty of some of their monotony. The ten-cent magazines are the most largely contributed, many people not caring to spoil their files of the more expensive periodicals. Still, quite a large number of the higher class magazines are donated. The great difficulty seems to lie in securing late or current numbers. For, notwithstanding the fact that the stories in old publications are as interesting as the later ones, the more intelligent class of army men desire to keep up with the times. They like to read discussions on the topics of the day, and for such large journals

are collected. Then, too, for the lovers of fiction there are novels of every description, from the traditional "yellow back" to the latest and freshest.

Gave Real Pleasure.

One of the most sensible contributions was a book of conundrums sent in by a little woman in the northwest. She had taken the precaution to paste the fly leaf down to the back, thus obscuring the inscription - the volume had evidently been a gift from some friend. The young woman who ships the books sent this particular one at Christmas time to a man she had met last summer. He belonged to the regular infantry and had received five Spanish bullet wounds at El Caney, but still remained in the service. Acknowledging the receipt of the present, he wrote:

"You have no idea how agreeably surprised I was upon receiving the package. I thank you very much. Little things like this, if practiced more by people, would make it seem like Christmas to many a soldier who has no home ties." This man had been in the army for a period of twenty years, yet this was probably the first time that a stranger had taken any interest in him.

Last fall the young woman received a package from an unknown correspondent in Indiana. It contained two dainty booklets of pressed flowers - beautiful specimens, artistically arranged. On each page was written an appropriate verse of poetry. Accompanying them was a note saying that the donor had read the call for literature for the soldiers in The Star, and being an invalid, she had made the booklets with the hope that the sight of the flowers from her native land might cheer some homesick soldier boy.

Showed Thoughtfulness.

This week another little parcel was received from the same source, and was designed as a keepsake for the young woman. It contained a home-made penwiper. Tiny ruffles of silk surrounded a head made from a hickory nut, with the pointed end representing the nose, and the other features drawn in with ink. The work showed that trembling but thoughtful hands had made it. Attached to the trinket by a narrow blue ribbon was a card with this inscription on one side:

"The Grandmother of the Regiment."

And on the other was the following bit of rhyme:

"It seems there's very little I can do
To show an interest in the boys in blue.
So when you write a letter now and then
Please let me stand by you and wipe your pen."

MUSICAL MENTION.

Mr. Stanley Olmstead of this city recently played at a concert in Raleigh, N. C., and the Post of that city spoke in the highest terms of his work, saying that it "was simply glorious. The Chopin cradle song was surpassingly sweet and touching, and 'Love-Death,' from 'Tristan and Isolde,' was wonderful in technique, power and expression. Indeed, we believe he is one of the most accomplished and artistic pianists who has been in Raleigh for many a year." Mr. Olmstead returns to Europe in May for further study.

Mr. Frank C. Roach has resigned his position with the quartet of Foundry M. E. Church and will be heard as tenor soloist of the Christ Church quartet after the 1st of April.

The Columbia Singing and Dramatic Club will give an entertainment at St. Elizabeth's Insane Asylum next Friday evening. The singing club will sing two numbers. Mrs. E. Jester and Mr. Thomas will render solos, after which the dramatic club will present two short comedies, "A Kiss in the Dark" and "My Turn Next." The cast of "A Kiss in the Dark" is as follows: Mr. Pettibone, Carl Davis; Frank Fathom, Mr. Oscar Wren; Mrs. Pettibone, Mrs. Seitz; Mary Miss Coleman; an unknown female, Miss Riley. And that of "My Turn Next" includes, Mr. Terraxium Twitters, Mr. Carl Davis; Tom Trap, Mr. Bingham; Tim Boins, Mr. Oscar Wren; Farmer Westcott, Mr. Page; Lydia, Miss M. Byrne; Cicely, Miss Riley, and Peggy, Miss K. Byrne.

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